to develop inland waterways transport in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) has Government of Andhra Pradesh submitted any proposal for developing canal transport in Andhra Pradesh; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any funds have been sought by Andhra Pradesh Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) A project report for the development of Buckinjham Canal and Commamur Canal between Madras and Vijaywada at on estimated of Rs. 37.18 crores has been submitted in February, 1991 for consideration as Centrally Sponsored Scheme under which 50 per cent of the sanctioned cost is provided as Central loan assistance.

Naxalites in the Country

270. SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAISE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the activities of naxalites have of late increased in the country; and

(b) what steps Government have taken to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The policy of the government is to deal firmly with the extremist elements in the country and simultaneously step up socio-econmoic development of affetced areas to redress genuine grievances of the local people and thus wean them away from the extremist's influence. All possible assistance is being provided by the Central Government to the affected states in this context.

Law and Order situation in Jammu and Kashmir

271. SHRI ARANGIL SHREEDHARAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be please to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the law and order situation has further deteriorated in recent weeks in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to restore law and order there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) The terrorist violence including targetted attacks on Security forces continued to be of serious proportions.

(b) Besides, stepping up vigil on the border, Government of Jammu & Kashmir has identified vulnerable pockets and active gangs for gearing up anti-terrorist operations organising Naka ambushes and effective deployment of paramilitary forces in the affected/sensitive pockets. Day and Night patrolling in vulnerable areas, raids on hideouts of terrorists and extortionists have been intensified. Intelligence has also been strengthened. In addition to continuing the stringent measures against the terrorists, it is also proposed to set up Peoples' Committees in the State to bridge the gap between the Government and the people and to enlarge employment opportunities for the youth.

मुजफ्फरपुर टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज को इलेक्ट्रानिक एक्सचेंज में परिवर्तित किया जाना

272 श्री रजनी रंजन साहू: क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) मुजफ्फरपुर (बिहार) के टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज को कब तक इलेक्ट्रोनिक एक्सचेंज में परिवर्तित कर दिये जाने की संभावना है; और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

संचार मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री पी. वी. रंगैय्या नायडू) : (क) मुजफ्फरपुर (बिहार) स्थित मौजूदा एक्सचेंज को इलैक्ट्रानिक एक्सचेंज में बदलने की कोई योजना नहीं है।

(ख) मौजूदा एक्सचेंज आठवीं योजना अवधि के दौरान एक्सचेंज बदलने की दृष्टि से निर्धारित मानदंड पूरा नहीं करता। तथापि, आठवीं योजना अवधि के दौरान एक इलैक्ट्रानिक एक्सचेंज को दूसरे एक्सचेंज के रूप में संस्थापित करने की योजना है।

बिहार में हाजीपुर-मुजफ्फरपुर रोड़ को राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग बनाया जाना

273. **श्री रजनी रंजन साहू**: क्या **जल-भतल परिवहन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिहार में हाजीपुर-मुजफ्फरपुर रोड़ को राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग बनाये जाने का प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है; और

(ख) इस सड़क को कब तक राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग बना दिया जायेगा और इसकी मरम्मत कब तक कर दी जायेगी ?

जल-भतल परिवहन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार) (श्री जगदीश टाइटलर) : (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) विभिन्न राज्यों द्वारा किए गए प्रस्तावों में जिसमें बिहार राज्य की प्रश्नगत सड़क भी शामिल है, राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों की घोषणा के बारे में कोई निर्णय 8वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना को अन्तिम रूप दिए जाने के बाद तथा विभिन्न पहलुओं को ध्यान में रखते हुए ही किया जा सकता है जैसे एन०टी०पी०सी० (राष्ट्रीय परिवहन नीति समिति) द्वारा की गई सिफारिशें अलग-अलग सड़कों की अखिल भारतीय आधार पर पारस्परिक प्राथमिकता नए राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों के लिए निर्धारित मानदंड, निधियों की उपलब्धता, आदि।

Development of Major and Medium Ports in the Country

274. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the projects and programmes being considered for the development of major and medium ports in India during the current and ensuing financial year with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Broad details of suhc projects and programmes pertaining to development of Major Ports in India and for Andaman & Lakshadweep Islands for the current financial year are enclosed. (*See* Appendix CLIX, Annexure No. 10).

The formulation of Annual Plan 1992-93 for finalising the projects and programmes for the ensuing financial year is yet to be taken up.

Development of the Minor Intermediate Ports in India is the responsibility of the respective State Governments.

Introduction of Cellular Phones

275. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce cellular phones in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to introduce car phones more liberally all over the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir. Initially four metropolitan cities are proposed to be covered